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## SUPERIORITY HELD BY ROYAL AIR FORCE DEMONSTRATED IN SEVERE FIGHT WITH THE GERMANS

### Desire By Nazi High Command To Preserve Diminished Fleet

LONDON, Dec. 19 (BRITISH WIRELESS)—INFORMED CIRCLES IN LONDON REGARD THE STRENuous RESISTANCE MADE BY GERMAN FIGHTERS TO THE R.A.F. RECONNAISSANCE YESTERDAY AS INDICATING THE INCREASED DESIRE BY THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND TO PRESERVE THEIR DIMINISHED FLEET.

The R.A.F. expedition had as its object the seeking out and destruction of enemy ships at sea but the Germans had withdrawn their naval forces in an endeavour to protect them from discovery leaving the passage of the R.A.F. aircraft to be disputed by their fighters.

In the severe fighting which followed the determination and skill of the R.A.F. personnel, resulting in the destruction of twelve enemy fighters for the loss of seven R.A.F. bombers, demonstrated, as did last Thursday's engagement when five out of 20 Messerschmitts were destroyed at the cost of three R.A.F. machines in a 40-minute fight, the superiority at present held by the Royal Air Force.

### King Spends Day With The Navy

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—His Majesty the King spent the day with the Navy, visiting Plymouth Command yesterday and inspecting mine-sweeping trawlers.

He went on board a destroyer which had just returned from a 15-day routine patrol.

The King also saw and spoke to fishermen from Newfoundland who had come Britain to join the Royal Navy.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain yesterday morning visited M. Daladier at the War Ministry in Paris, says Reuter.

It is, however, recognised that no accurate conclusion on the comparative strengths of fighters and bombers can be obtained until large-scale operations have taken place, although the success so far attending R.A.F. fighters, when driving off enemy bomb raids, may prove in the future to be a link in the certain chain of evidence favourable to the R.A.F.

That the recent loss of German warships has shaken German confidence is to be expected and authoritative London circles believe that the grossly exaggerated claims made by the German Government, which more than reverse the true story of yesterday's air battle, represent an attempt to counteract the impression made on the German public by the loss of the Admiral Graf Spee.

NEVER TOOK PLACE

News of this could not be suppressed or minimised as is the good use.

### DUPED BY BRITISH REPORTS

Special to the H.K. Daily Press

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Havas)—Well-informed circles stated today that the German High Command was completely duped by British reports on the concentration of allied ships waiting outside Montevideo harbour for the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee.

Far from having a formidable fleet of British and French warships, only the original warships which battaled with the Graf Spee, H.M.S. Ajax and H.M.S. Achilles, minus H.M.S. Exeter, actually waited for the pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee.

Both these light cruisers had their ammunition supplies practically exhausted so that the Graf Spee, repaired and freshened, could be a match for them.

case in less universally known defeats. The same interpretation is put to the German story of an air battle off the Sylt yesterday which, in fact, never took place although it is true that unmoored R.A.F. patrols over that and the south Frisian Islands were almost continuously carried out on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday of last week.

These patrols, it seems, had the effect of keeping German seaplanes fixed to these bases because, since they began, no enemy seaplane has approached the British coast.

Whatever the future may hold, it is beyond dispute the British sea patrols are gaining valuable experience which will be put to good use.

### SMALLNESS OF SUBMARINES

The smallness of the submarines H.M.S. Salmon and H.M.S. Ursula can be judged by comparison with the largest submarines in the Royal Navy given below.—

H.M.S. PARTHIAN (5 officers) 1,475 tons and 4-inch gun.

H.M.S. RORQUAL (5 officers) 1,520 tons and 4-inch gun.

H.M.S. SALMON (4 officers) 670 tons and 3-inch gun.

H.M.S. URSULA (3 officers) 540 tons and 3-inch gun.

### Submarine's Triumphant Return

#### AN ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION

LONDON, Dec. 19 (B.W.S.)—The British submarine which recently sank a U-Boat, sighted the Bremen and torpedoed at least one German cruiser, had an enthusiastic reception on her return to port.

As she entered the harbour, sirens sounded on every ship present—among them two destroyers of the Polish Navy, which are at present co-operating with the Royal Navy.

MOST EVENTFUL

The patrol from which submarine returned is spoken of in Naval circles as the most eventful which has fallen to any submarine either in this war or the last. Events moved rapidly from the beginning.

The submarine had not long been in her patrol area before she sighted a German U-Boat, of the big ocean-going type, steaming fast on the surface outward bound.

QUICK MANOEUVRE

The British submarine manoeuvred quickly to attack. Torpedoes were fired and in a few minutes there came a shattering explosion.

The wreckage was thrown at least 200 feet into the air.

The British submarine made an unsuccessful search for survivors.

### MURDERER GRANTED REPRIEVE

It is learned from an official source that Tang Chu, alias Shu Hang-tsal, aged 24 years, who was sentenced to death at the Criminal Sessions last month, has been granted a reprieve by the Governor in Council.

Tang, who was defended by Mr. Percy Chen, instructed by Mr. S. K. Lau, was found guilty before the Chief Justice Sir Atholl MacGregor, of the murder of Leung Ki, aged 21, in Chinese Street on September 28, 1939, and the death sentence was passed on November 28.

The trial lasted two days and the prosecution was conducted by Mr. J. B. Prentis, Assistant Crown Solicitor.

It was the 12th murder trial of the year.

### DEATH OF MRS. R. KIPLING

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The death occurred today of Mrs. Rudyard Kipling, widow of the famous poet.

Mrs. Kipling had not been in good health since her husband's death in 1936. She would have been 74 next month.

### FRENCH LOAN TO CHINA

PARIS, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Reports

from the Far East of 180,000,000 francs loan to China, for the construction of a railway linking the provinces of Yunnan and Szechuan, are not confirmed in official sources.

### N. IRELAND'S PART IN WAR

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Opening

the new session of the Northern Ireland Parliament, the Duke of Abercorn read the King's speech which said: "From the day war was declared, Northern Ireland has given proof of her willingness to play her full part in this great struggle."

The spokesman said that the Chinese have not launched a general counter-offensive as it is not yet the time. The assaults now being made on various fronts are intended to harass the Japanese and give them no chance for reinforcements. Reports have it that three Japanese Divisions in North China are being replaced with fresh reinforcements.

The Japanese weakness, the spokesman declared, has been exposed as a result of the Chinese attacks. At many points, the Japanese failed to put up any resistance and not a few Japanese officers and men have surrendered.

The spokesman claimed that the Chinese have gained considerable war booty, including 14 field and mountain guns on the east bank of the Siang River in Hupeh.

CENTRAL HUPEH

FANGCHENG, HUPEH, Dec. 19 (Central)—Fighting raged all day yesterday on the Kingshan-Chungshang highway, in Central Hupeh.

The Japanese are encountering difficulties in calling up reinforcements as the highway has been cut.

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### ULL IN KWANGSI BROKEN: JAPANESE BASE IN SOUTH HUPEH HEAVILY ATTACKED

ON THE KWANGSI FRONT, Dec. 19 (Central)—The lull in Kwangsi was broken yesterday morning by a Chinese attack against the Japanese front lines at Kunlung-kwan, on the Nanning-Pinyang highway.

The Chinese recaptured Kunlung-kwan at 11.20 a.m. and in pursuit of the enemy regained Chuitang, a point south, at noon. Japanese communication between Wutang and Liutang on the same highway has been severed.

Japanese aircraft which had been inactive for the last few days swung into action again following the Chinese recapture of Kunlung-kwan. They reconnoitred and bombed the Chinese positions. Three machines flew to Pin-yang where they machine-gunned the peasants working in the fields.

A field dispatch describes the Chinese success at Kunlung-kwan as the most important victory since hostilities were started in Kwangsi. The hillsides are said to be strewn with Japanese dead and arms and ammunition abandoned.

STREET FIGHTING

PINGKUANG, HUNAN, Dec. 19 (Central)—Chinese troops broke into Tungcheng, Japanese base of operations in South Hupeh, through the north gates on Sunday. Street fighting ensued.

GENERAL OFFENSIVE

CHUNGKING, Dec. 19 (Central)—Japanese reports of a Chinese "winter offensive" were denied by a Chinese military spokesman yesterday in an interview with the Central News.

### YANGTSE DECISION: JAPANESE FEAR IMMINENCE OF ABROGATION OF AMERICAN TRADE TREATY

SHANGHAI, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—A step in the right direction, but two years late, is the opinion of the American-owned Shanghai Evening Post in a leading article on Japanese preparation for the re-opening of a small section of the Yangtze River.

The paper declares, however, that if foreign shipping is to be handicapped in the area from the boom to Nanking, similarly as has been treated in the delta, then the re-opening does not mean much.

The paper believes that the decision was prompted by the imminence of the abrogation of the American-Japanese Trade Treaty.

The Japanese announcement of "preparations for the gradual and conditional re-opening of the Yangtze, below Nanking, is believed to be couched to indicate that there are fearful difficulties to be faced—prestons that will receive nothing but mocking laughter from third party shippers who have seen Nippon craft sailing to and from Hankow for a long time."

The Evening Post adds that the Japanese are ingenious and remarking that one of the reasons for delaying the date of the re-opening of the river is that the boom must first be removed, asks: "Have the Japanese ships that have taken commercial cargo up-river in the past two years been solemnly climbing over the boom?"

In conclusion, the paper states that should the re-opening be but

### STREET SLEEPERS TO BE CLEARED

Police patrols in the Central district have been instructed as from today to keep certain areas clear of all street sleepers.

Areas that are to be cleared are Queen's Road Central, between Wellington Street and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank; Des Voeux Road Central, between Jubilee Street and the Bank; and Connaught Road Central, between Jubilee Street and Jackson Road.

an empty gesture then it will not have a favourable effect for the Japanese on other nation, but to the contrary.

"To influence America, Japan must throw open the whole of the Yangtze without restrictions and conditions; and quickly."

### Daughter Denounces Father As "Traitor"

#### CLOSE FOLLOWER OF WANG

KINHWA, CHEKIANG, Dec. 19 (Central)—Miss Mei Kan-wen, daughter of Mei Sze-ping, a close follower of Wang Ching-wei, has severed relations with her father, branding him as "a traitor."

She issued a statement on Dec. 13, the second anniversary of the fall of Nanking, declaring that she wants to eliminate her traitorous father and expressed the hope that the children of all traitors will join hand in an anti-traitor campaign.

She also made a speech at school denouncing her father in bitter terms.

The step-mother of Mei Sze-ping has also announced in the Press her severance of relations with him whom she denounced as "a traitor endangering the State and disgracing the ancestors."

### WAITING FOR CRACK GERMAN LINER

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—According to the Miami Herald, British destroyers are waiting off Florida to intercept the crack German liner Columbus (32,000 ton) which sailed on Thursday from Vera Cruz for an unknown destination.

The Kwangtung Provincial Government is bringing the opium suppression project to the second stage whereby eight more hsien, namely, Yingtak, Tsingyuan, Fat-kong, Yuyuan, Jenhua; Lokchong, Lienhsien and Yungshian are to be cleaned up by the end of next June.

The naval authorities have summoned the captain of the German freighter Tacoma to explain why his ship left and returned to port without permission.

Captain Landsdorf, commander of the Graf Spee, announced that he was remaining in Argentine as long as the Argentine Government wished.

It is believed that the Tacoma will probably be interned.

It will be recalled that the freighter followed the pocket battleship to sea and participated in the rescue of the crew.

### Nazi Warships' Hulls Made More Vulnerable By Welding

Special to the Hongkong Daily Press

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Havas)—Naval experts stated that the welding system employed by German dockyards in the construction of warships makes the hulls more vulnerable than if the ordinary riveting plates were used.

This is shown both in the sinking of the German cruiser belonging to the Koenig class by a single torpedo and in the damage caused to the Graf Spee by the 6-inch shells from H.M.S. Ajax.



# In the World of Sports



## BATSMEN HAVE FIELD DAY AT KOWLOON

### Three Men Top Half-Century Mark: Drawn Game

BY "E. U. ROPES"

There was only the Senior Division game last Saturday, this being the drawn match, at King's Park, between the Club and Kowloon. The match was significant for one thing—the weakness of both teams in the bowling department being very much in evidence.

The visitors had first lease of the wicket and Dr. Lindsay Ride at last really got going and knocked up a pretty 64. After Carey, who had opened with the doctor, was out Alec Pearce settled down almost at once to play carefree cricket to hit up 72 runs and the Club were able to declare at 179 for four wickets.

## WILL JACK DEMPSEY COME TO HONGKONG?

WILL JACK DEMPSEY come to Hongkong?

Boxing fans who have been looking forward to seeing the former world heavy-weight champion in the Colony were disappointed to learn that, contrary to expectations, Jack Dempsey did not come by the Pan American China Clipper which arrived at Kai Tak from Manila yesterday evening.

According to information gathered from those who arrived in the giant flying boat, it is reliably learned that Dempsey might still make the trip before returning to the States.

Dempsey left his restaurant in Madison Square Garden, New York, and went to Manila by Clipper to referee the title fight for the world light-weight championship between Garcia (holder) and Gleb Lee. The fight is to take place on Saturday.

### A SHORT VISIT

Dempsey had booked his passage to Hongkong, and had his passport visited for a short visit which he intended to make this week, but it is understood that the reception committee in Manila had other plans for him and would not let him go.

The former champion is due to referee another fight in Honolulu on Dec. 26, and if that fight could be postponed (efforts are being made to do so) Dempsey will in all probability visit Hongkong before returning to America. Until something definite is known on this point we can only keep wondering—will Dempsey visit Hongkong?

## Brentford's Lucky Equaliser

Brentford .....2 Chelsea .....2 Jackson, Chelsea's Scottish international reserve keeper, was the sole star in a scrappy game.

Yet, strangely enough, he might have saved the shot that gave Brentford their equaliser in the second half. He was hampered by two forwards, and Gorman's 40-yards free kick sailed over his head into the net.

Apart from a few "purple patches" this was a typical take-no-chance "Derby." There was little attempt by either side to produce constructive football, and there was a great deal more feeling than finesse.

### GOAL INSPIRATION

Chelsea had the inspiration of a goal in the first ten minutes. Payne rounded off a fine solo effort with an unstoppable shot. After that Brentford peppered Dackson with a barrage of shots. It was all Brentford up to the interval, and Holliday equalised after a characteristic dash.

Chelsea went ahead again soon after the break, Burgess making no mistake with a penalty kick.

This lead was short-lived, for within a minute Jackson made his only mistake of the match. He may have been impeded, but anyway, Gorman's free kick counted.

There was hardly a single thrill in the rest of the 90 minutes, and it can be said that neither side deserved to win a poor game.

## Charity Cup Soccer

### SCOTLAND'S TEAM SELECTED

The following have been selected to represent Scotland against England in the Sunday Herald International Charity Cup competition football match on Tuesday December 28, on the Club ground, kick-off at 3.30 p.m.:

DUNCAN (R. Scots); A. Bone (Club), Blackburn (Police); McEwan (Club), Williamson (Kowloon), Clarke (R. Scots); Munro (R. Scots), W. G. Pryde (Club), Hossack (R. Scots), Ferrier (Police) and Tait (Middlesex).

RESERVES: Dignam (R. C. of Signals), Birrell (R.E.) and Gibb (R. Scots).

Players are requested to report to the team manager, Mr. W. W. Pryde, at the dressing room of the HKFC, at 3 p.m. sharp.

LOST TO CHINA

Last year Scotland lost to China by four goals to nil in the second round on the Sookunpoo ground. Lee Wal-tong (3) and Lai Shu-wing scored for the winners.

It is of interest to note that of the team selected above Duncan, Blackburn, Munro, Ferrier, Hossack and Tait played for Scotland last year.

## FOOTBALL FIXTURES FOR YEAR

### CHARITY MATCH ON JAN. 1, 1940

The following are the remaining soccer fixtures for the year:—

#### TODAY

Junior Shield Replay Royal Scots v. 8th R.A. (C. Hill, 230; Ref.—Foster).

#### SATURDAY, DEC. 23

1st Div. (4 p.m.) Kowloon v. R. Navy (Kowloon, Ref.—Goss; Linesmen—Dove and Demree).

St. Joseph's v. S. China "A" (C. Hill, Ref.—Glover; Linesmen—Edwards and Ient).

Police v. Royal Scots (Boundary Rd., Ref.—Mitchell; Linesmen—Phillips and Sze Po Wal).

#### 2ND DIV. "A"

5th R.A. v. Kit Che. (Sookunpoo, 230; Ref.—Hinchliffe).

8th R.A. v. Eastern (Stanley, 4; Ref.—Pearson).

South China v. 30th R.A. (C. Hill, 230; Ref.—Silva).

#### 2ND DIV. "B"

University v. Engineers (postponed).

Kowloon v. Kwong Wah (Kowloon, 230; Ref.—Ip).

R.A.F. v. Police (Boundary Rd., 230; Ref.—Gibson).

Royal Scots v. Signals (Military, 4; Ref.—Smith).

#### 3RD DIV.

R.A.S.C. v. Royal Scots (Sookunpoo, 4; Ref.—Thorley).

R.A.M.C. v. 12th R.A. (St. Joseph's, 230; Ref.—Copsey).

Signals v. International (St. Joseph's, 4; Ref.—Harloch).

Engineers v. Kumaons (Chatham Rd., 230; Ref.—Ford).

#### SUNDAY, DEC. 24

1st DIV. (4 p.m.) Kwong Wah v. Eastern (Boundary Rd., Ref.—Clark; Linesmen—Adland and Hobson).

Club v. S. China "B" (Club, Ref.—Omar; Linesmen—Barretto and Carley).

#### 2ND DIV. "A"

Electric v. 24th R.A. (C. Hill, 230; Ref.—Lee Bing Tong).

South China v. 5th R.A. (C. Hill, 4; Ref.—Wype).

#### MONDAY, DEC. 25

Sunday Herald International Charity Cup

China v. Portugal (Sookunpoo, 3.30; Ref.—Mitchell; Linesmen—Minham and Foster).

#### TUESDAY, DEC. 26

Sunday Herald International Charity Cup

England v. Scotland (Club, 3.30; Ref.—Ip; Linesmen — Silva and Omar).

#### SATURDAY, DEC. 30

Senior Shield 1st Round (4 p.m.)

Kwong Wah v. South China "A" (Boundary Rd., Ref.—Beard; Linesmen—Ford and Hobson).

South China "B" v. Kowloon (C. Hill, Ref.—Foster; Linesmen—Mitchell and Smith).

Royal Scots v. Club (Sookunpoo, Ref.—Minham; Linesmen—Edwards and Barretto).

#### JUNIOR SHIELD 1ST ROUND

Royal Scots v. 8th R.A. v. R.A.F. (Club), Blackburn (Police);

Police v. South China "B" (Boundary Rd., Ref.—Ip).

24th R.A. v. Kowloon (C. Hill, Ref.—Stokes).

International v. R.A.M.C. (St. Joseph's, 4; Ref.—Hinchliffe).

30th R.A. v. Club (Military, Ref.—Glover).

#### 3RD DIV.

Kumaons v. Royal Scots (Chatham Rd., 3.30; Ref.—Dove).

#### SUNDAY, DEC. 31

Junior Shield 1st Round

Signals v. Engineers (Sookunpoo, 2.30; Ref.—Clark).

Electric v. S. China "A" (Club, 4; Ref.—Silva).

Eastern v. Kwong Wah (Club, 2.30; Ref.—Omar).

#### MONDAY, JAN. 1, 1940

Charity Match (in aid of B.O.W.F.)

Combined Services v. Rest of Co.

Navy (Navy ground, 3.45; Ref.—Beard; Linesmen — Stokes and Ford).

## H.K. FOOTBALL REFEREES ASN.

The monthly meeting of the Hongkong Football Referees' Association will be held tomorrow, Dec. 21, at 8 p.m. at the Offices of the Hongkong Football Association, Bank of Canton Building, 4th floor, Room No. 55.

The following are amongst the several important items down for discussion:—

(a) To decide the date of the "Referees v. Press" Football Match.

(b) To consider the erection of a club-house.

The primary aim for the erection of a club-house is to have a rendezvous for the convenience of giving lectures on the "Laws of the Game" to football players and fans as a means to improve their feeling and interest on and off the field.

## SAPPERS BEAT K.I.T.C.

### HOCKEY ASSOCN. TOURNAMENT

Royal Engineers beat the Kowloon Tennis Club, Conquerors or Nomads, by four goals to one in a Hockey Association Tournament match played at Shatinpoo yesterday.

Both teams turned up short of several of their regulars. K.I.T.C. were without Maila, who has left the Colony for Japan, while Afzal, their left-winger was another absentee. The Engineers missed Denyer and Shaw from their forward line.

The losers were one short throughout the game, while the R.E. lost Marriott, their inside-left, who was injured in the hand by a rising ball late in the first and had to retire.

The Sappers were in excellent form, and good combination among the forwards, backed up by an excellent performance from their centre-half, Sgt. Croston, soon wore down the K.I.T.C. defence.

Man Singh was the losers' only dangerous forward, although Pyara Singh and a newcomer, Gurbachan Singh, were occasionally in the line.

#### HOMBURG SHINES

For Sappers, L/Sgt. Homburg was outstanding, and he scored three of the four goals. Sgt. Croston scored the third goal. The score at half time was 3-0. The goal for K.I.T.C. netted by Man Singh being the last of the match.

## H.K.R.A. SPOON SHOOT AT NAVAL RIFLE RANGE

Forty-four members attended the Spoon Shoot on the Naval Rifle Range on Stonewall's Island last Saturday. The light was particularly good, just falling towards the last six hundred yards, and the wind was tricky only at five hundred.

#### LEADING SCORES

Leading scores were as follows:—

S.E. (a) S.E. (b)

Pte. J. C. Tompka 11 27 28 31 88\* Bpt. 200 500 600 T.L.

Sgt. M. F. Bushman 7 28 29 29 88

Sgt. J. P. Balmer 5 27 28 29 84

L/Cpl. A. P. Pereira 9 26 30 27 83

Mrs. S. Croft 3 26 28 28 80

Mr. C. A. Hyett 8 27 28 25 80

L/Sgt. J. D. Remedios 8 21 24 24 79

Cpl. A. F. Ferreira 14 23 24 20 77

Cpl. F. C. Cole 5 25 24 28 77

\* Winner of Nett-spoon.

+ Winner of Handicap-spoon.

Winners of "a" or "b" will have his handicap reduced by one point.

## H.K.C.C. TEAMS FOR SATURDAY

The following will represent the Hongkong Cricket Club against the Club de Recreio in friendly cricket matches on Saturday at 2 p.m.:—

1st XI at Club de Recreio:—T.

A. Pearce (Capt.), D. de S. Carey, G. F. Charlton, D. G. Day, A. H. Finnie, J. H. Fox, R. D. Gillespie, M. F. L. Haynes, J. L. Isley, J. L. C. Pearce and L. T. Ride.

2nd XI at H.K.C.C.—E. J. R.

Mitchell (Capt.), C. W. E. Bishop, H. J. D. Lowe, Brigadier T. Macleod, A. K. Mackenzie, D. O. Parsons, R. S. W. Paterson, J. E. Potter, D. S. Robb, W. Stoker and T. M. Suter.

## The Practical Greeting



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**"SACRIFICES  
MUST NOT  
CONTINUE"**

**JAPANESE PARTY  
LEADERS WANT  
PEACE**

PEIPING, Dec. 13 (Reuter) — High Japanese officials and prominent members of the Reformed Government, it is understood, were interviewed by three leaders of the Japanese Selyukai Party—Messrs. Fusinosuke Kuhara, Kenkichi Yoshikawa and Kiroku Oruchi—since the Japanese politicians arrived from Hsinling last Friday.

PEACE IN CHINA  
According to a Chinese report, the question of obtaining peace in China was discussed. Mr. Kuhara is said to have declared that "the sacrifices of the present incident must not be allowed to continue—they will not only be harmful to China, but also to Japan."

The Japanese Party leaders left this morning for Tientsin.

**Air Raid  
Alarm In  
Chungking**

**62 Japanese  
Planes**

**NEIGHBOURING  
TOWN BOMBED**

CHUNGKING, Dec. 19 (Reuter) — For the first time in nearly one month, the air raid alarm was sounded here yesterday morning, when 62 Japanese aircraft headed up the river from Hankow, flying in two groups.

The Japanese bombers were preceded by a lone scouting aeroplane, which crossed the Szechuan border, cruising in the vicinity of Wanhsien before returning down the river.

**FIRST GROUP**

The first group of Japanese bombers passed Yuyang and bombed Laifeng, near the Hupeh-Hunan border, according to Chinese reports.

**SECOND GROUP**

The second group of 26 Japanese planes entered Szechuan and it is reported that they bombed Liangshan, to the north-east of Chungking and to the west of Wanhsien. It is learned that 36 Japanese bombers also attempted to come up the river yesterday morning, but turned back at Shasi in view of the bad weather conditions.

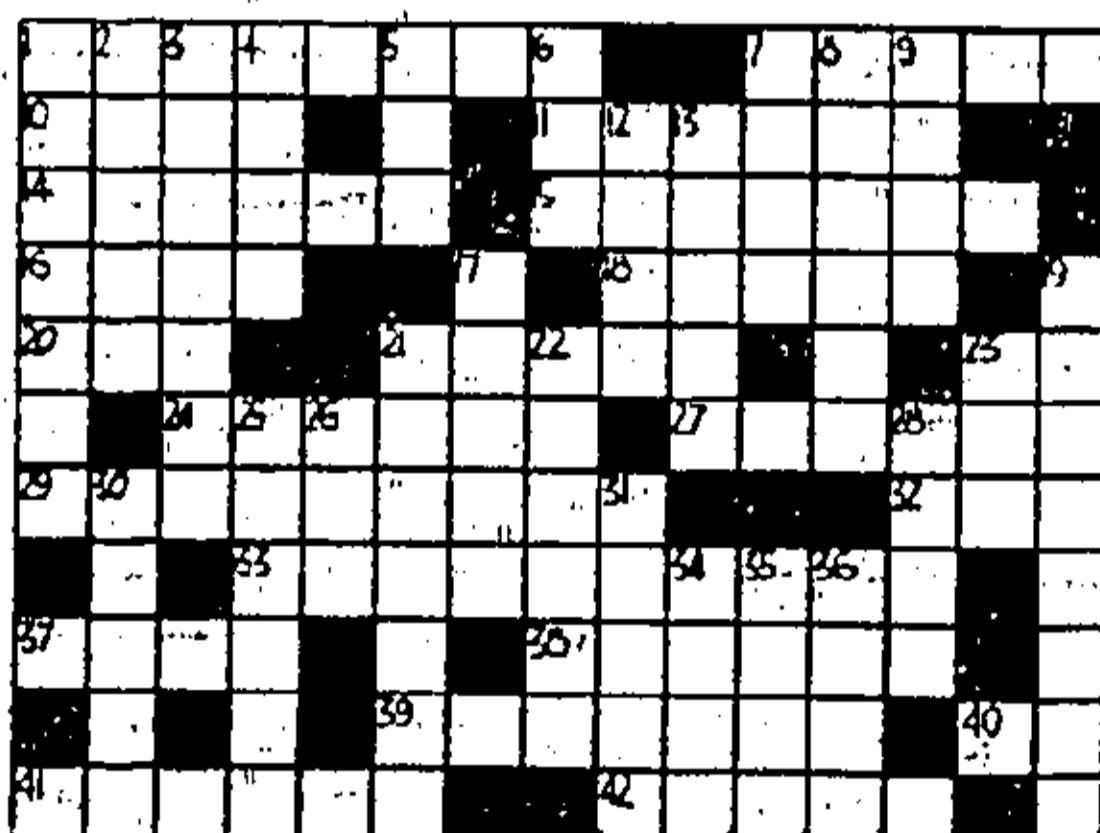
**BORDER RAIDED**

YUANLING, HUNAN Dec. 19 (Central) — Thirty-six Japanese aircraft staged a terrific air raid over Laifeng and Lungshan, on the Hupeh-Hunan border, yesterday. Some 400 bombs were dumped.

**HIGHWAY BOMBED**

SHIUCHING, KWANTUNG Dec. 19 (Central) — Points along the Sunwui-Hokshan highway, south-west of Canton, including Tsing-ken, Cheungtilling and Sheung-ha-kaufongshan, were bombed by six Japanese planes on Saturday. Over 50 bombs were released.

**CROSSWORD  
NO. 491**



**ACROSS CLUES**

- Curve
- This force is often used by humans
- A grand heroic tale
- In these numbers, little Susan takes part
- Come into view in cheap pearl necklace
- With spots of colour on
- Are these chumps always taken in by plants?
- Overdoes affection
- This in wrestling implies freedom from irksome rules
- The very devil
- A catch phrase, "—what?"
- Property which 41 across may lease
- High regard, though the golfing part is no great ne'er-do-well
- Where there's a will there's a way or maybe this
- Upset the ale
- A bit fishy but comes nearer
- Is this row connected with seats in theatre?
- Experience it all again
- Put into bondage
- These two compass points are only half a point
- For this landlord you make one word or less
- Made a waster of money by thrifit!

**DOWN CLUES**

- Son of the soil
- Horrify
- Little Laughing Waters
- You may get these cards out of case
- An essential weapon in a row?
- The object in claiming
- Target for rain
- Soften
- The end of all excuses
- The splash in the bar
- No, you can't throw one that weighs its middle
- Father's unmistakable in his old check cap at Erith
- Tender affairs
- If Granny were a trier, doubtless she made one
- Singers one gets at once or in tens
- This saw just goes up and down
- Beginning of this gets these wherever she goes
- A bit of a blow for a backward Irishman
- Otherwise eels twisted
- Only "the best people"
- Coins made from slate and used in the east
- Striking applause
- Home for buzzers, though one only sees four inside
- This is cut short eventually—you'll say it isn't odd!

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**Reduction Of  
North China  
Garrison**

**DURHAMS LEAVE  
PEIPING FOR H.K.**

PEIPING, Dec. 19 (Reuter) — The Durham Light Infantry detachment which has hitherto been carrying out duty as the British Embassy guard, left by train last night en route to Hongkong, leaving one platoon of the East Surreys, roughly 35 men under two officers, to take over their duties.

Their destination after Hongkong is not disclosed.

**IN FULL KIT**

The Durhams, who are being withdrawn in accordance with the British Government's decision to reduce the North China Garrison, marched in full kit, wearing fur caps and heavy great-coats on account of the cold, through the streets of the Legation quarter to the station, which is outside the quarter.

They were seen off by a large number of foreign diplomatic officials and military officers.

**Confession  
Of Murder In  
Thailand**

**INSTIGATION BY  
JAPANESE ALLEGED**

SHIUKWAN, Dec. 19 (Central) — The principals and accomplices in the murder of Mr. Ngai Kwong-yim, well-known Chinese merchant in Thailand, who were arrested recently have confessed that the murder was instigated by Japanese and bogus quarters, according to a report from Bangkok.

**FUNERAL SERVICE**

A funeral service for the late Mr. Ngai was held at Bangkok on Sunday. Over 9,000 overseas Chinese were present.

Telegrams of condolence were received from Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and other high Chinese officials.

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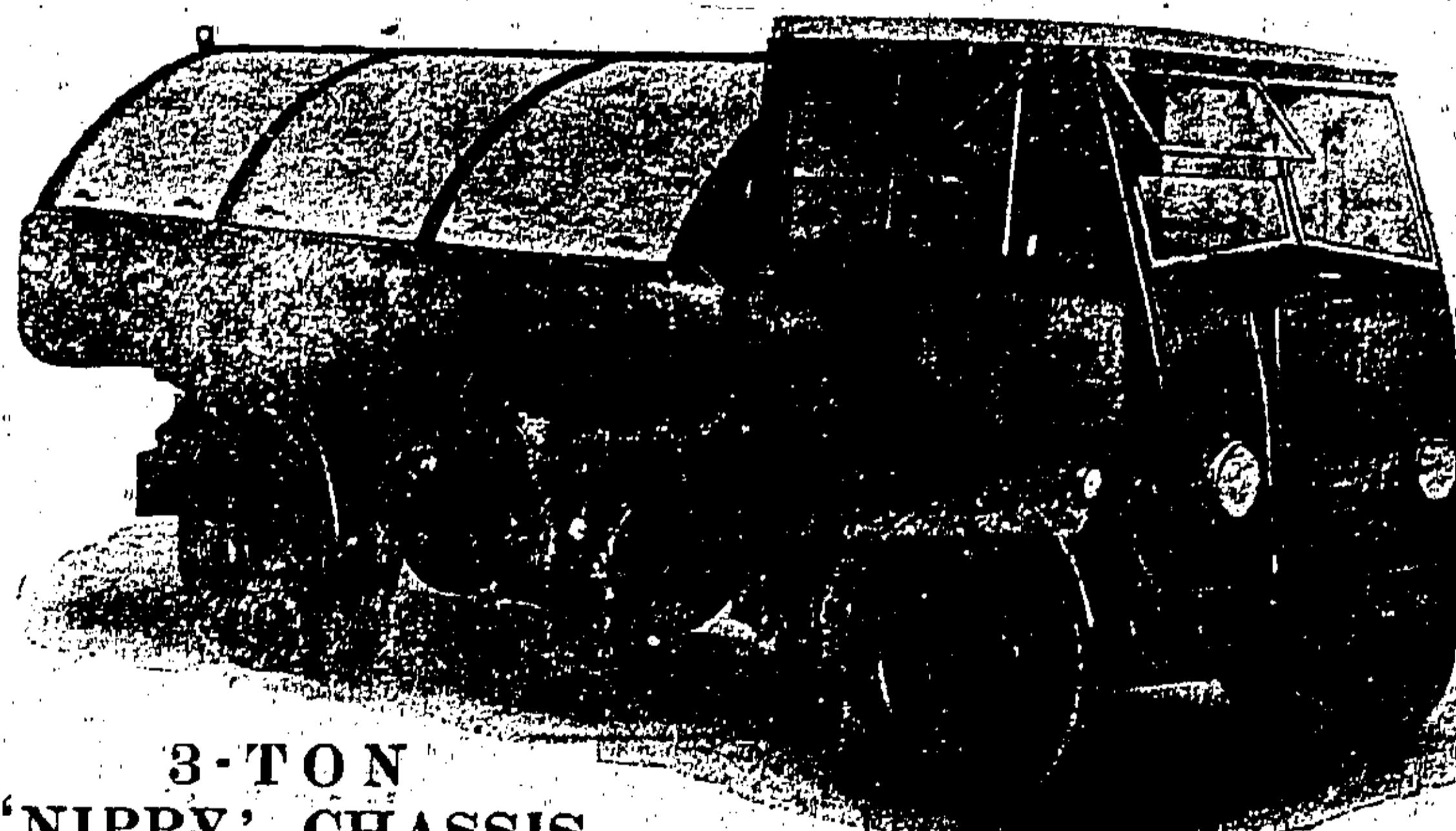
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A noted Doctor says: "I find that Bisulcated Magnesia taken after my meals is the only thing that keeps me free from pain and discomfort, and I take it regularly. I often prescribe it for my patients, and have had very good results."

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FOR QUICKEST STOMACH RELIEF—BISMAG

**AFRICA THE BEAUTIFUL  
— THE UNKNOWN****INSTRUCTIVE LANTERN ADDRESS  
AT HONGKONG ROTARY CLUB**

"Africa, the Beautiful, the Unknown," was the theme of an interesting and instructive set of lantern slides shown to Hongkong Rotarians at their weekly tiffin meeting yesterday by Dr. G. A. C. Herklots, who explained the pictures in a running commentary.

The pictures, some of which were in colour, were illustrative of the fauna, flora and people of Tanganyikala and East Africa and also of some of the well known landmarks of that region. Victoria Nyanza and Mount Kilimanjaro were shown, buffalos near the Zambezi and a wonderfully clear picture of a flight of aegrets taken from an Imperial Airways Flying boat.

**GOOD PICTURES**

The aegrets, Dr. Herklots explained, were the same as those seen in the New Territories at a certain period of the year.

There were also some very good pictures of elephants and buffalos—all taken from the air from a height of about 200 feet.

There were also pictures of antelopes and lions, and a close-up of a lioness that had killed a baby and the wife of the expedition's cook. The beast was shot by one of the party.

Dr. Herklots also showed the method by which mails were transported by runners through lion-infested country for distances of about 30 miles on stretch. The native runners did not seem to be afraid of the animals.

**NATIVE LIFE**

On one road through the jungle was a large and ominous sign "Beware of Elephants on this Road" and Dr. Herklots explained the part these great big animals played in the spreading the growth of ginger trees along the roadside. Several slides were shown of typical East African vegetation and native life.

One picture showed natives wearing red cloths the doctor explained that the cloth was originally white, but had assumed the red colour through contact with the wearer's body. The natives

used a preparation of red earth and oil which they applied to their skins. Through the oil, the colour of the earth was gradually transferred and absorbed by the cloth and eventually the entire material assumed a red colour.

**ROTARY CONVENTION**

Before the slides were shown, the chairman, Mr. L. C. F. Bellamy, called upon Rotarian Bishop Ward, who had represented the Hongkong Rotary Club at the International Rotary Convention at Cleveland, to say a few words.

Rotarian Bishop Ward said, "In general, the impression he had gained was that the Rotary movement was not merely social gathering, such as they had here, but a real and significant movement in many countries of the world. Something is growing from it—good fellowship and comradeship."

**ROTATORIAN BISHOP WARD**

Before the slides were shown, the chairman, Mr. L. C. F. Bellamy, called upon Rotarian Bishop Ward, who had represented the Hongkong Rotary Club at the International Rotary Convention at Cleveland, to say a few words.

**SPEAKER THANKED**

A vote of thanks was proposed by Rotarian E. J. R. Mitchell, who made brief reference to his days in East Africa during the last war.

He also thanks the University for the loan of the their best projector for the showing of the slides and Pan-American Airways for the loan of the screen.

The visiting Rotarians were Mr. D. F. Meyers (Chungking), Mr. J. Wierink (Canton), and Mr.

Ralph A. Ward (Chenku), while the guests were Messrs. K. H. Lim,

E. S. Abraham, R. C. Stewart, M. Azzolini, Z. On (Shanghai), R. V. Lederhofer, C. F. Marshall, W. D. Murray, Paul Annis and Capt. Thursby.

**DARDANUS ARRIVING TODAY**

Imperial Airways' R.M.A. Dardanus, under the command of Captain J. N. Wilson, is reported to be arriving at Kai Tak today from Fort Bayard.

The plane during the past four days has been undergoing repairs in the French port, necessitated by damage sustained when it was forced down by Japanese over Weizhou Island last month.

Later the plane will be flown to Singapore for a usual quarterly overhaul.

**MAYCOCK - LAING WEDDING AT REGISTRY**

Miss Eva Helena Laing, daughter of Mr. R. K. Laing and sister of Dr. Douglas Laing, became the bride yesterday of Mr. William George Maycock, partner of Messrs. A. Dransfield and Company.

The ceremony took place at the Registry, Supreme Court. Mr. T. S. Whyte-Smith, Registrar of Marriages, officiated, the witnesses being the bride's father and Mr. J. H. Maycock, brother of the groom.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The following forthcoming marriages are announced:

Dr. Wong Hok-nin, of the Medical Department, and Miss Ann Beatrice Tse, daughter of Mr. Tse Ka-po, residing at No. 3 Kotewall Road;

Pte. Arthur Charles Thomas Williams, of the Army Medical Store, Mataukok, and Miss Cecilia Dolores Loring, shop assistant, residing at No. 520, Nathan Road, first floor.

Charged with having attempted to obtain \$130 from a woman, named Tse Yum-sang, 31, at 133, Changawan Road, 2nd floor, on Dec. 17, two men, Wong Sang, 40, and Li Kam-lam, 29, appeared before Mr. Q. A. A. Macfadyen at Kowloon Court yesterday when they were remanded 24 hours in custody.

He had to apply both brakes immediately to avoid a collision. Dr. Lo was alleged to have driven at between 15 and 16 m.p.h. when turning out from Nullah Road.

A fine of \$10 was imposed.

**CAUTIONED**

Mr. E. Christensen, of Kimberley Villas, was cautioned for driving with one front light in Nathan Road at 6.45 p.m. on Nov. 28.



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**PICCADILLY CIGARETTE BOX**

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HONGKONG, DECEMBER 20, 1939

HOW ALLIES  
WILL PAY U.S.(National City Bank  
Bulletin)

THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS of the war upon American trade with belligerent countries, and the means by which they will make payment for purchases, are important questions to which only approximate or tentative answers can be given at present.

DURING THE LAST WAR, a substantial share of American net exports were financed by European government loans sold to the American public and by credits extended by American banks. After entry into the war in April 1917, the United States Government made large direct loans to the Allied Powers. At the present time, however, these sources of credit have been eliminated by the Johnson Act of 1934 and the Neutrality Act of 1937.

TABLES PREPARED by the Institute for International Finance of New York University, show that during the period 1914-17 practically one-third of the sum due the United States from the Allies and neutrals in settlement of the export surplus in American merchandise trade with them was financed by loans contracted in the United States. Approximately 40 per cent. was paid for by the resale of American securities, about 15 per cent. by not gold shipments and the remainder by various services.

THE PROBLEM of chief interest at present narrows down to how Great Britain and France will finance U.S. imports, inasmuch as American trade with Germany has been practically shut off by the Allies' control of the sea.

IN PEACE TIME, both Great Britain and France paid for their excess of imports by tourist trade, shipping and other services.

About one-half of U.S. 1937 merchandise trade surplus with the United Kingdom totalling \$300,000,000 was settled by invisible items, of which tourist expenditures and shipping commissions contributed about \$70,000,000.

INASMUCH as the war will both handicap the rendering of various services by the British and restrict their merchandise exports, it seems likely that credits accruing to U.S. in their balance of payments with the United Kingdom may be considerably greater than in peacetime. On the other hand, the imposition of import regulations, greater reliance upon Empire resources and rigid restrictions upon capital movements will tend to reduce the pressure upon the exchanges, and there is a possibility that the Crown Colonies and the Dominions may earn more dollars through increased sales of raw materials to U.S. at higher prices.

RESOURCES most readily available for use in the U.S. market are of four principal kinds: (1) gold; (2) bank balances and short term investments in the United States; (3) negotiable dollars securities, and (4) direct investments (business participations) here; the liquidation of which, however, is often difficult.

THE PRE-WAR GOLD STOCK of Great Britain consisted of \$185,000,000 in the Bank of England and some \$600,000,000 divided about evenly between private bank and circulation. The

JUNK ROBBERY  
RECALLED AT  
SESSIONSThree Men Given  
Prison Terms

Charged before Mr. Justice R. E. Lindsell at the Criminal Sessions yesterday with robbing a junk off Cheungshawan, two of four men, LO YEE and PO KAN pleaded not guilty. The other two were PO SO and PO FUN. Lo Yee was discharged owing to lack of evidence.

Mr. T. J. Gould, Assistant Crown Solicitor, said a junk approached trading junk No. 515Y off Cheungshawan about 8 p.m. on October 19, which carried a variety of goods. Three men boarded the latter craft and took away various articles, including quantities of salt, cloth towels, tooth brushes and 122 tubes of Government opium. Two men who remained on board the robbers' junk were seen to be armed.

## RIFLES FOUND

After reporting to the police at Lu Ku Tan, the master of the victimised vessel accompanied Sgt. Davies to Castle Peak and found the four accused on board a junk. On a search being made, two rifles were found on board.

The jury, without retiring, found defendants guilty.

PO was sentenced to four years' hard labour, while Po Fun received three years and Po Kan two years' imprisonment.

French stock included \$783,000,000 in the Bank of France and nearly \$1,000,000,000 in private banks and in the hands of the public. After the outbreak of war, both the British and French Governments endeavoured to draw all the gold into their central banks, but the efforts in Great Britain were more successful in this respect than in France, where only about one-half was given up by the public.

AT THE OUTBREAK of the present war, substantial amounts of gold were held privately in London, estimated at about \$1,500,000,000 in September 1938, but believed to have been reduced by about four-fifths since then.

ESTIMATES OF THE GOLD held at present by the Bank of England and the Equalization Fund are rough approximations at best. Latest official figures placed the gold in the Fund at \$1,732,000,000 in March 1939. An average of private estimates places the gold holdings of the Fund at the outbreak of the war at somewhat above \$1,000,000,000, when \$1,162,000,000 was transferred to it from the Bank of England.

THE TROOPS RECALLED AT THE OUTBREAK of the war, substantial amounts of gold were held privately in London, estimated at about \$1,500,000,000 in September 1938, but believed to have been reduced by about four-fifths since then.

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WHILE THE ANGLO-FRENCH HOLDINGS of negotiable dollar securities are much less than at the outbreak of the last war, the technique for their mobilization for the financing of trade and the support of exchange is much better developed.

STEPS TO MARSHAL BANK BALANCES AND NEGOTIABLE DOLLAR SECURITIES were taken several months ago. In the last war, such steps were not taken until 1915, when the British Government invited the sale to itself of American securities owned by British investors, and two years later made such sale compulsory.

IN ADDITION to the gold and dollar assets of Great Britain and France, consideration may well be given to their extensive investments in the Dominions and Colonies.

These include numerous Canadian securities, Rhode Island copper shares, Rand mining share and large British investments in neutral countries such as South America, many of which doubtless could be sold in the

new production of gold. Approximately \$730,000,000 or nearly two thirds of the world output of gold (outside of Russia), was produced within

the British and French Empires in 1938, whereas in 1914 their annual production was

but \$280,000,000.

## EDITORIAL



The entire cast in the finale of the pantomime "All Baba" which the Y.M.C.A. A.D.C. will present at the European Y.M.C.A. this afternoon at 5 o'clock. The producer is Major W. de B. Wood.

CANADIAN TROOPS GET  
ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME  
IN BRITAINMESSAGE FROM  
THE KING

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The Canadian Expeditionary Force was given a most enthusiastic welcome when they steamed ashore in thousands on Sunday at a port in Britain from great liners guarded by a formidable squadron of the Navy, while aeroplanes patrolled overhead guarding against a surprise raid.

## MOSTLY YOUNGSTERS

The troops represented every part of Canada and included some Americans, Red Indians and coloured men.

Many had served in the last war, but the majority were youngsters.

The troops were drawn up on the pier and heard the G.O.C. read a message of welcome from the King who said:

"The British Army will be proud to have, as comrades in arms, the successors of those who came from Canada in the Great War and who fought with heroism that will never be forgotten."

## MR. EDEN'S WELCOME

The troops doffed their caps and cheered.

Mr. Anthony Eden then welcomed the Canadians and said the British people would never forget this great act of co-operation.

"The task before us may be long—it certainly will be tough, but in the assurance of the peoples of the British Commonwealth in the certainty of final victory."

## C. IN C'S REPLY

The Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Force, Major-General A. G. McNaughton, replied, expressing their gratitude to the King and to Mr. Eden and also to the Navy for their splendid safeguarding of the troops across the Atlantic.

The troops then entrained for camp in a distant part of Britain.

COMMITTED TO  
SESSIONS

A member of the Hunghom Peace Preservation Corps, Man Pong, 23, was committed to the Criminal Session from Kowloon Court yesterday on a charge of robbery following lower court proceedings before Mr. E. Himsworth.

It is alleged defendant robbed a man named Tsun Wing, in a latrine in Matauwei Road, of \$207 in money and a suit of clothing.

Giving evidence in his own defence, Man Pong told the Court he had noted Tsun was in the habit of peeping at women in the latrine, and he had struck him for it. Tsun left the latrine in a hurry, and left behind his suit with the money in it which, defendant said, he thus picked up.

New York market for dollars. British investments in Canada have been estimated at about \$2,500,000,000 in South Africa at \$1,250,000,000 and in Argentina at \$2,200,000,000.

Just how large a portion of these securities the British Government would be willing to transfer to other countries is, of course, uncertain.

Defendant is charged with having accepted a bribe of \$15 from an internee, named Ko Kwok-kong,

on Nov. 16, and further with having accepted a bribe of \$9 from an internee, named Yeung Wah-leung.

Ma Lai, a woman, who was found guilty with three men on Monday

at the Criminal Sessions of possession of heroin pills, and who pleaded that she was only the cook

was sentenced yesterday by Mr. Justice R. E. Lindsell to six months' hard labour.

TROOPS GET  
ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOMENew Concern  
To Develop  
Sikang

Large-scale development of Sikang, rich but untapped province in China's "Wild West" will begin when the Hsing Si Industrial Corporation, now under organisation by prominent overseas Chinese, formally comes into being.

This was revealed by Mr. Li Hwa-chow, young overseas Chinese scientist and industrialist and chairman of the projected concern's preparatory committee, at a press reception at the St. Francis Hotel on Monday.

The corporation, whose promoters are Mr. Liang Han-tsao, secretary-general of the Legislative Yuan, Mr. Chow Chi-kang, deputy director of the Overseas Board of the Central Party Headquarters, Mr. Chow Yung-neng, director of the Overseas Affairs Section of the Kwangtung Provincial Government, and others, has \$3,000,000 capital which has been fully paid up.

It is planned that \$1,000,000 will be used for mining, \$1,000,000 for banking, \$500,000 for factories, \$100,000 each for transportation services and department stores, \$10,000 for hotel business and the remainder as operating capital.

A hotel has been established in Sichang, in southwest Szechuan, to accommodate those going to the West. Concrete steps are being taken to establish a bank and a hospital there, says Central News.

BUS CRASH  
SEQUELKowloon Driver  
Fined \$75

A fine of \$75 was imposed by Mr. E. Himsworth at Kowloon Court yesterday on Ng Yeung, 26, bus driver involved in the accident with a rickshaw in Salisbury Road on November 9 near the Children's Playground in which Mrs. Krishna, of Hart Road, was badly injured.

Defendant was summoned on two counts, one of driving without due care and caution and another of passing a vehicle to the left side of the road. It was alleged he had run into the rickshaw while travelling at a speed of about 25 miles per hour.

Among the witnesses heard yesterday was Mrs. Krishna, who said that the bus had struck the back of the rickshaw. She was detained a month in hospital with a broken arm and other injuries.

Alleged Acceptance  
Of Bribe

Charged with having accepted bribes from two internees at Matauwei Camp, an Indian constable, Ghulam Hussain, P.O.C., 30, aged 26 years, appeared before Mr. E. Himsworth, at the Kowloon Court yesterday, when he was remanded a week in custody.

Defendant is charged with having accepted a bribe of \$15 from an internee, named Ko Kwok-kong,

on Nov. 16, and further with having accepted a bribe of \$9 from an internee, named Yeung Wah-leung.

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was sentenced yesterday by Mr. Justice R. E. Lindsell to six months' hard labour.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1939.

Graf Spee Must Have Been  
More Seriously Damaged

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—BY RUNNING TO SHELTER, THE GRAF SPEE SHOWED THAT SHE WAS MORE SERIOUSLY DAMAGED THAN APPEARED ON THE SURFACE, SAID THE NAVAL OBSERVER OF THE B.B.C. IN A TALK FROM DAVENPORT LAST NIGHT.

She was probably badly damaged inside something like a man who suffers an internal wound in an automobile accident and who dies a few days later after outwardly appearing to be recovering.

One cannot say that this was the case for certain, but there seems to be no other logical reason for the scuttling of the pocket-battleship without even an attempt at putting up a fight.

## PRUSSIAN IDEAL

The Prussian ideal has always been that an officer only surrendered to the enemy if outmanoeuvred and in no position to damage the enemy without a fight for it.

The pocket-battleship is a curious graft and in its way a marvellous piece of mechanism. The Observer went on. She carries armaments, crew and provisions that should rightly be carried only by ships twice her displacement.

But sacrifices must be made somewhere and in a pocket-battleship, weight is sacrificed.

The inside of a normal warship is built to stand stresses and strains, not only of weather and armament, but also of being hit by shells. The Graf Spee had to sacrifice this.

## CRUISERS' FEAT

Speaking of the feat of the two six-inch gun cruisers in attacking an eleven-inch gun pocket-battleship, the B.B.C. Observer pointed out that not only did they engage the Graf Spee, but defeated her.

Far from being beaten off by her heavier guns, the two cruisers chased the Graf Spee for hours.

That phase of the battle will go down in history. It was a superb example of the use of tactics and superior speed.

The British cruisers attacked the German ship from two separate directions, so that she had to disperse her fire and was unable to concentrate an entire broadside on any one of them.

CHINA WAR  
NEWS

Continued from Page 1

A Japanese caravan of over 80 motor cars and lorries moving westward from Yunglungpo, on the east bank of the Han River, was intercepted at Luchiaotai north-west of Yunglungpo, on Sunday. More than 30 of the lorries were damaged. The Japanese returned to Yunglungpo.

Some 200 Japanese around Chuankowtien, south of Yingshan, were completely wiped out in an engagement on Sunday.

## CHINESE PRESSURE

CHANGSHA, Dec. 19 (Central)—Japanese reinforcement rushed toward Yoyang (Yochow) in North Hunan to relieve the Chinese pressure there are reported to have been intercepted between Chaoilkiao and Yanglongtow on the Canton-Hankow Railway, respectively 45 and 38 miles north-east of Yoyang.

A railway bridge north-east of Yoyang was dynamited by the Chinese.

The Chinese who recaptured Wulipai, 30 miles north-east of Yoyang, are pushing toward Lin-siang, 29 miles north-east of Yoyang.

The Japanese aerodrome at Pei-loki, 15 miles north of Yoyang across the Yangtze River, was again raided by Chinese a few days ago. Many Japanese guards were killed.

## KAI FENG CITY

# FIERCE BATTLE RAGING ON NORWEGIAN - FINNISH BORDER

## Russians Claim Big Advance

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—On the Norwegian-Finnish frontier a fierce battle has been raging all last night south of Kuosaer and is still progressing. Soviet troops have now occupied a great part of the Finnish territory along the Norwegian frontier, although they sustained heavy losses. These losses are unlikely to have a serious effect upon their ability to retain their new positions, owing to the large forces at their disposal.

They have been steadily pressing to the south since Friday.

Fifty Finnish soldiers crossed the frontier at the weekend and they stated that the Finnish detachments had taken heavy toll of the enemy.

At one point they claimed that no less 700 Russians were taken completely by surprise and wiped out with small field guns and machine-guns.

### RUSSIANS SUCCESSFUL

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Pushing across Central Finland in an attempt to cut the country in two, the Russians are reported to have been successful at Salla, just north of the "wasp waist" in the drive against Kemijarvi some 50 miles further west.

If the report is true, Finnish troops are in danger of being cut off from supplies in the south.

On the Petsamo front, the Finnish position is reported to be more than dangerous.

Russian victory in the reported battle south of Petsamo and a Russian drive towards Pitkajarvi are claimed in a Soviet communiqué and confirmed here.

Three Russian regiments are reported to have been destroyed by the Finns at Suomussalmi. The Finns are holding their own to the south of Lake Ladoga.

### SEVERE MEASURES

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—According to the French Wireless, the Chief Political Commissar and Chief of the OGPU left Moscow for the Finnish front to investigate the recent cases of disaffection among Russian troops.

The Kremlin is said to be most dissatisfied with the conduct of the Finnish campaign and it is expected that severe measures will be taken against Russian commanders at the front.

### TWO CLAIMS

A Helsinki communiqué states that altogether 212 enemy tanks have been destroyed.

A Moscow communiqué claims that Red Army troops occupied the town of Pitkajarvi.

### A PROMISE

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Information from Moscow states that the new Red Army leaders have promised the Kremlin that Finland will be "cleaned up" by February.

As a result of the unexpectedly strong Finnish resistance, it is stated that the OGPU have started a purge of Soviet officers serving in Finland.

## Russian Troops With Small-Pox

### OUTBREAK IN FINLAND

HELSINKI, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Small-pox has broken out among the Russian Army in Finland.

Reports reaching here state that the outbreak is spreading rapidly and has already reached the proportions of an epidemic.

A further 2,000 men from Moscow have been brought up to reinforce the Russian troops in Finland.

### SOUTHWARD MARCH

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—A message from the Norwegian-Finnish frontier states that piercing Finland from the extreme north, Red Army troops have turned the Finnish defence line south of Salmijarvi and continued to march southward.

They are now over 60 miles from Petsamo and have apparently occupied hundreds of miles of territory along the Norwegian border.

Finnish troops are retreating in good order, probably on a pre-arranged plan, while small detachments of troops are carrying on guerrilla warfare behind the Russian lines.

## Finnish Commander's Statement

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Gen. Wallenius, the Finnish Commander on the Northern Front, informed the correspondent of the Swedish newspaper Nyheter, that he was convinced that Russian tanks attacked by way of Norwegian territory during the Salmijarvi operations.

He stated that Finnish machine-gunner stations on the road bordering the front were suddenly attacked on the flank. It was impossible that Russian tanks could have avoided traversing Norwegian soil, since the road was constantly watched.

### HEAVY SNOWFALLS

HELSINKI, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Heavy snow is now falling on all fronts in Finland, tremendously helping the Finns in their battle against Soviet aggression.

Finland circles expect dramatic developments in the northern front before long.

It is reported that in one Finnish withdrawal in the northern area, a Finnish machine-gun company remained hidden in the town from which the main body had withdrawn. The first Russian company to enter the town was machine-gunned and killed to the last man.

### UNCONFIRMED REPORTS

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Reports of dissension, and even revolt, among Soviet soldiers and civilians are reported from Stockholm via Estonia.

On Sunday night it is reported that the men of a Soviet battalion north of Lake Ladoga mutinied, shot their Commissar and went over to the Finns.

Yesterday there were reports of disturbances among the civilian populations of Leningrad and Moscow.

Extraordinary security measures are said to have been taken. The more important institutions are being guarded, private houses are being raided by police and radio receivers are being seized.

It must be emphasised, however, that these reports are not yet confirmed.

### KARELIAN Isthmus

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The fighting in Finland appears to be at its heaviest in the Karelian Isthmus, judging from all sources.

The Finns are believed to have gained ground in that area. They say that they have forced the Soviets back and destroyed thirty tanks.

This report may be partly confirmed by the fact that while Soviet official communiques give details of the operations on other fronts, they are suspiciously and totally silent about the Karelian Isthmus.

### NEW DEFENCES

Although the Mannerheim Line is many miles deep, the Finns are still erecting new defences miles behind.

North of Lake Ladoga the Finns also seem to be doing well. Their batteries destroyed three armoured cars and Finnish aeroplanes have also been busy.

## U.S. NEWSPAPER COMMENTATOR DEAD

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Mr. Heywood Broun, well-known newspaper commentator and President of the American Newspaper Guild, died yesterday morning at 10 a.m., age 51.

Mr. Broun was taken to hospital a few days ago suffering from pneumonia. His condition fluctuated over the week-end and took a turn for the worse early in the morning.

Mr. Shou Mien-cheng was ap-

pointed Director of the Adminis-

tration of Co-operative Enter-

## Disquiet In Luxembourg

BRUSSELS, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The new measures which have been taken in Luxembourg are having a somewhat disquieting effect on the population, according to reports received in Belgium.

Police are now guarding all public places and main street intersections for undisclosed reasons.

Late on Sunday night, the Government had a long meeting, but the subject of the conference was not disclosed.

## On Western Front

### ANOTHER RAID BY GERMANS

PARIS, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Bitter winter weather prevails on the Western Front, with low temperatures, snow and strong winds and military activity has been less than on the previous day, except in the fairly large area between the Saar and the Vosges, where numerous patrols have been constantly patrolling.

### WAR COMMUNIQUE

PARIS, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—A War Communiqué states that "towards midday a sharp engagement occurred in the Vosges between one of our reconnoitring parties and German units. We made some prisoners, including officers."

### NAZI SOLDIERS CAPTURED

PARIS, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Several German soldiers, including two officers, were captured yesterday after a clash between German raiders and a French outpost.

There is no speculation in White House quarters whether formal action for seeking international observance of the area will be speeded up to prevent future incidents such as the Graf Spee scuttling.

### NO SPECULATION

There is no speculation in White House quarters whether formal action for seeking international observance of the area will be speeded up to prevent future incidents such as the Graf Spee scuttling.

### STRONG TERMS

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The Argentine Foreign Minister, Señor Cantilo, declared that he would publish today a joint note to be addressed by twenty-one American countries to the belligerents, protesting against the violation of the safety-zone.

After the proclamation of the safety-zone, Mr. Sumner Welles announced that the United States had no intention of sending its Navy out to enforce the maintenance of the zone, but would like belligerent countries to recognise the existence of the area.

### NO SPECULATION

There is no speculation in White House quarters whether formal action for seeking international observance of the area will be speeded up to prevent future incidents such as the Graf Spee scuttling.

## BRITISH SUBMARINE'S ENCOUNTER WITH THE BREMEN: FULL STORY IS REVEALED BY ADMIRALTY

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—An Admiralty statement issued at 7.30 p.m. yesterday states that the Commander of the British submarine which sighted the Bremen ordered her to stop and was preparing to fire a warning shot when enemy aircraft forced the submarine to dive.

Despite the fact that German aircraft were known to be near, the submarine came to the surface and signalled the Bremen "stop instantly."

The Bremen took no notice. The submarine Commander was making ready to fire a shot across the Bremen's bows when he was compelled to submerge.

### COMMANDER'S DECISION

Twenty-four hours later, the submarine saw a pocket-battleship, two battle cruisers and three accompanying cruisers. The submarine Commander decided to attempt to disable more than one ship.

His first torpedo struck the cruiser Leipzig. Two more torpedoes are believed to have struck another heavy cruiser. Three more torpedoes passed between the enemy ships.

### OIL ON SURFACE

The submarine, after being hunted for two hours, returned to the spot after and found an area of nearly four square miles thickly coated with oil.

The Admiralty comment states: "It seems certain that at least one heavy cruiser, in addition to the Leipzig, was badly damaged and that at least one of the ships might well have failed to reach port."

### WITHIN RANGE

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The Admiralty statement discloses that when the submarine came to periscope depth to investigate,

CABLE

## SCUTTLING OF ADMIRAL GRAF SPEE

### IGNOMINIOUS DEPARTURE FROM NAVAL TRADITION

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The scuttling of the Graf Spee constitutes an ignominious departure from the honourable tradition of all Navies, as exemplified in the famous fight by Sir Richard Grenville in the Revenge, which fought 53 ships single-handed in 1591;

Admiral Cradock, who faced almost certain destruction at the hands of a vastly superior fleet at Coronel in 1914;

The Spanish Republican Destroyer "Lois Diaz," which, after undergoing repairs in Gibraltar, in the Civil War, came out and faced a powerful force of the Nationalist Navy.

The scuttling indicates not only lack of will to fight, but the absence of confidence in final victory, when the vessel, if interned, would have been restored.

## U.S. CONCERN OVER SCUTTLING

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—President Roosevelt kept in close touch with the State Department from his Hyde Park home yesterday, getting all the latest news concerning the Graf Spee and her scuttling.

It is pointed out here that the President was particularly concerned with the possible dangers to north and south American property, interest and lives caused by belligerent operations in the western hemisphere and that the scuttling of the Graf Spee raises several important questions.

### VIOLATION ISSUE

At their recent conference, for instance, twenty-one American countries proclaimed a 300-mile safety-zone with the intention of asking the belligerents keep their naval engagements out of this area.

The question now arises: Is this Graf Spee incident a violation of the spirit of this?

After the proclamation of the safety-zone, Mr. Sumner Welles announced that the United States had no intention of sending its Navy out to enforce the maintenance of the zone, but would like belligerent countries to recognise the existence of the area.

### NO SPECULATION

There is no speculation in White House quarters whether formal action for seeking international observance of the area will be speeded up to prevent future incidents such as the Graf Spee scuttling.

### STRONG TERMS

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—The Argentine Foreign Minister, Señor Cantilo, declared that he would publish today a joint note to be addressed by twenty-one American countries to the belligerents, protesting against the violation of the safety-zone.

The note drafted by Señor Cantilo was approved by the other states and declares in strong terms that the battle caused dissatisfaction to American countries and sets forth formal declarations intended to prevent a repetition of such occurrences.

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## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HAMPERS

### No. 4 Hamper

1 qt.	Lanson Extra Dry	Champagne Vin. 1933
2 qts.	Black & White Whisky	
1 qt.	Gordon's Dry Gin	
1 qt.	Courvoisier V. O. Brandy	
1 qt.	Sandeman's Lt Dry Sherry	
1 qt.	Hunt's Full Rich Port	
1 pt.	D.O.M.	
1 qt.	Rou's Lime Juice	
1 doz.	Miniature Cocktails	
		<b>\$60.00</b>

### No. 5 Hamper

1 qt.	Lanson Extra Dry	Champagne Vin. 1933
1 qt.	Black & White Whisky	
1 qt.	Gordon's Dry Gin	
1 qt.	Courvoisier V. O. Brandy	
1 qt.	Vino de Pusto Sherry	
1 qt.	Hunt's Full Rich Port	
1 qt.	Sauterne	
1 qt.	Graves	
1 qt.	French Vermouth	
1 pt.	D.O.M.	
1 pt.	Gordon's Peppermint	
1 Bott.	Rou's Lime Juice	
		<b>\$68.00</b>

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## H.K.V.D.C. CAMPS IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

The following is a special Order relating to H.K.V.D.C. Training Camps in January, February and March, 1940:

1. Training Camps will be held in January, February and March, 1940, as under:—

(a) 1st Camp—Fanling:

A.S.C. Coy. (Transport Sec); No. 1 Company; No. 4 Company (Chinese); No. 5 Company (Portuguese); No. 7 Company (Chinese)—p.m. Monday, January 22 to p.m. Monday, January 29.

(b) 2nd Camp—Fanling:

Field Company Engineers; Corps Signals; Mobile Column; No. 2 Company (Scottish); No. 3 Company—p.m. Tuesday, January 30, to p.m. Tuesday, February 6.

(c) 3rd Camp:

1st Battery; 3rd Battery; 5th Anti-Aircraft Battery—p.m. Wednesday, February 21 to p.m. Wednesday February 28.

(d) 4th Camp:

Field Ambulance—p.m. Monday, March 4 to p.m. Monday, March 11.

(e) 5th Camp:

2nd Battery; 4th Battery; No. 6 Company (Portuguese)—p.m. Wednesday, March 6 to p.m. Wednesday March 13.

## TRAINING JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH

## H.K. CHINESE RELIEF ASSN.

### Charities Benefit From Flower Day

The Hongkong Chinese Relief Association has made donations as mentioned below to various institutions out of the takings of the Flower Day organized by the Association on Dec. 16.

British War Organisation Fund	\$1,500
British Fund for the Relief of Distress in China	1,000
St. John Ambulance Brigade	500
Society for the Protection of Children	500
Winter clothes for victims of war in Kwangtung	500
National Association for Relief of War Orphans	500
Home for the Aged (Kowloon City) (Sisters of the Poor)	400
St. Louis Industrial School	400
Leprosy Hospital (Kennedy Town) (Winter clothes)	300
Hongkong Boys and Girls Clubs	200
Total	\$5,800

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1939.



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## SEE WHAT \$2.00 WILL BUY

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## SEE WHAT \$3.00 WILL BUY

These parcels consist of carefully thought out gifts—appreciated gifts—and solve the question of price.

## SEE WHAT \$5.00 WILL BUY

Call and make an early inspection of these parcels, for we can assure you that they will be very much appreciated.

## GRAND DISPENSARY

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Corner, China Building—Close to Queen's Theatre  
TELEPHONES: 21616, 23606.

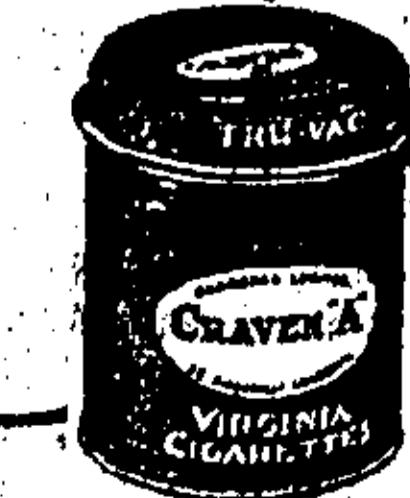


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FLAT POCKET TINS OF 20 & 50

ALSO

PACKETS OF 10



HOWEVER many Craven 'A' you smoke each one always lives up to its reputation of being perfectly fresh and throat-smooth. They tell me it's the same all over the world wherever you buy them.

MADE SPECIALLY  
TO PREVENT SORE THROATS

LONDON MADE BY CARRERAS LTD.

## KUOMINTANG YOUTH CORPS

Mr. Huang Wen-shan, formerly professor of the National Chung-shan University, who has been sent by the Central Kuomintang Headquarters to the United States to inspect Party affairs and to organize a San Min Chu Yi (Three People's Principles) Youth Corps among the Chinese youths there, has arrived in Hongkong from Chungking. He will leave shortly for America by air.

After a stay in the United States he will proceed to Canada and South America. He will be abroad for a year.

## AIRPORT NEWS

### Imperial Airways:

**NORTHBOUND**  
Thursday: Bangkok, Hanol, Hongkong.  
Delphinus—4 p.m.

**SOUTHBOUND**  
Sunday: Hanol, Bangkok, Denebola—7 a.m.

### Air France

**NORTHBOUND**  
Wednesday: France, Hanol, Hongkong.  
Service—4 p.m.

**SOUTHBOUND**  
Thursday: Hanol, France.  
Service—6 a.m.

### Pan American Airways.

**EASTBOUND**  
Friday: U.S.A., Manila, Hongkong.  
Honolulu Clipper—2 p.m.

Tuesday: U.S.A., Manila, Hongkong.  
Philippine Clipper—2 p.m.

### WESTBOUND

Saturday: Manila, U.S.A.  
Honolulu Clipper—8.30 a.m.  
Wednesday: Manila, U.S.A.  
Philippine Clipper—8.30 a.m.

**WESTBOUND**  
Saturday: Manila, U.S.A.  
Honolulu Clipper—8.30 a.m.  
Wednesday: Manila, U.S.A.  
Philippine Clipper—8.30 a.m.

### WESTBOUND



## FOREIGN MARKETS &amp; QUOTATIONS

MONEY AND EXCHANGE  
CLOSING QUOTATIONS

DECEMBER 19, 1939

On London:—  
Telegraphic Transfer, 1/3 7/8  
Bank Bills, on demand 1/3 7/8  
Credits 4 months' sight 1/3 1/4On Shanghai:—  
On demand ..... 310On Singapore:—  
On demand ..... 32 3/4On Japan:—  
On demand ..... 103 1/2On India:—  
Telegraphic Transfer, 1/3 2/2  
and demand ..... 1/3 1/2On New York:—  
Bank Bills, on demand 24 7/16  
Credits, 60 days' sight 25 1/16On Batavia:—  
On demand ..... 48 1/2On Paris:—  
Bank Bills, on demand 1000  
Credits 4 months' sight 1145On Saigon:—  
On demand ..... 108 1/2On Manila:—  
On demand ..... 48 7/8On Bangkok:—  
On demand ..... 149 1/2Sterling Notes:—  
Bank Buying Rate ..... 1/4

Bar Silver per oz ..... 33 7/16

## Market Report

FROM ROZA BROS.

The price for Ready Silver rose 1/16 yesterday to 23.7/16 but the Forward rate was unchanged at 23.9/16. Silver advices reported the market as being steady but quiet. Bears covered to a small extent. American Silver was quoted at 34.3/4 for Spot.

The London-New York cross-rate was quoted at 402. New York-London was quoted at 395.

Market

Featureless.

Sterling

There were sellers at 1/3 December/January, 1/231/32 February/March and 1/215/16 May/June, buyers at 1/31/32 Cash and 1/3 February.

U.S. Dollars

There were sellers at 24.5/8 December, 24.9/16 first half January and 24.7/16 first half February, buyers at 24.11/16 Cash, 24.9/16 January and 24.7/16 February.

Shanghai Dollars

During the early part of the morning there were sellers at 315 for Spot. Inter sellers were quoted at 308. Towards the close at 1 p.m. there were sellers at 312 for Spot.

Shanghai Market

Sterling opened with sellers for Spot at 4.11/16. The highest rate touched was 4.13/16. Towards the close at 1 p.m. sellers for Spot were quoted at 4.13/4. U.S. Dollars opened with sellers at 7.11/16 and towards the close at 1 p.m. sellers were quoted at 7.13/16 for Spot.

Afternoon Market

The market was quiet in the afternoon.

Sterling

The market closed with sellers at 1/3 December/January, 1/231/32 February/March and 1/215/16 May/June, buyers at 1/31/32 Cash and 1/3 February.

U.S. Dollars

There were sellers at 24.5/8 December, 24.9/16 first half January and 24.7/16 first half February, buyers at 24.11/16 Cash, 24.9/16 January and 24.7/16 February.

Shanghai Dollars

Towards the close sellers were quoted at 313 for Spot.

Shanghai Market

Sterling opened with sellers in the afternoon at 4.25/32 for Spot and towards the close buyers were quoted at 4.3/4 for Spot.

Shanghai Exchange

Shanghai, Dec. 19 (Reuter). Official T.T. Rates

London ..... 0/4-1/4  
New York ..... 6-7/8  
Japan ..... 29-1/4  
India ..... 23-1/2  
Paris ..... 3.11  
Hongkong ..... 28-1/4Sellers  
Opening ..... Closing  
Spot ..... 0/4-3/4 ..... 0/4-3/4  
Dec. ..... 0/4-3/4 ..... 0/4-3/4  
Jan. ..... 0/4-23/32 ..... 0/4-23/32  
U.S. Dollars  
Spot ..... \$7-13/18 ..... \$7-13/18  
Dec. ..... 7-25/32 ..... 7-25/32  
Jan. ..... 7-11/18 ..... 7-11/18  
Market:—Quiet.Merchant Rates  
Sterling, 0/4-3/4.  
U.S. Dollars, \$7-13/16.  
Silver Duty RateThe Central Bank of China's rate on London at 10 a.m. today was 1/2-1/2d, unchanged from yesterday.  
The Equalisation rate was 24-1/4 per centPAYNE & CO.  
COMMODITY BROKERS  
STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING  
HONGKONGCOMMODITY MARKET REVIEW  
(FROM PAYNE & CO.)

SINGAPORE RUBBER			
Dec. 16	Dec. 18	buyers	Change
S P O T	39-1/4	39-3/8	up 1/8
JAN-MARCH	38-3/4	39	up 1/4
APRIL-JUNE	36-3/4	37	up 1/4

The market was quiet.

LONDON RUBBER			
Dec. 16	Dec. 18	buyers	Change
S P O T	11-13/16	11-15/16	up 1/8
JAN-MARCH	11-7/8	11-15/16	up 1/16
APRIL-JUNE	11-3/4	11-13/16	up 1/16

The market was quiet but steady.

NEW YORK COTTON: Present levels are attracting large amount from Loan.

CHICAGO WHEAT: Extensive short-covering by the mills continues to disclose the tightness of the December position. The cash market is strong.

GENERAL COMMODITIES: We disfavour short position in any major commodities under war uncertainties, but would be disposed to take profits on speculative longs on very much further advance.

NEW YORK STOCKS: Previous close, 149.36; Today's close, 149.22; Change, off 14.

## NEW YORK COMMODITY MARKET

(By Courtesy of Messrs. Swan, Culbertson &amp; Fritz and S. F. Levy &amp; Company)

NEW YORK COTTON					
	High	Low	Close	Close	Change
New York Cotton, Mar.	11.05	10.78	10.96	10.88	.08 off
New York Rubber, Mar.	19.59	19.45	19.40b	19.55	.15 up
Chicago Wheat, May	109	104	105	104	.44 up
Chicago Corn, May	59	58	58	59	.1 up
New York Hides, Mar.	15.68	15.56	15.53	15.56	.03 up

NEW YORK COTTON Close Opening Closing Change

January ..... 11.15/15 ..... 11.12/12 ..... 11.08/08 ..... .07 off

March ..... 10.96/97 ..... 10.96/97 ..... 10.88/90 ..... .08 off

May ..... 10.62/62 ..... 10.62/62 ..... 10.54/54 ..... .08 off

July ..... 10.24/24 ..... 10.28/29 ..... 10.25/25 ..... .01 up

July, (New contract) ..... 10.43 N ..... 10.51/51 ..... 10.44/44 ..... .01 up

October ..... 9.75/75 ..... 9.79/80 ..... 9.76/76 ..... .01 up

December ..... 9.73 A ..... 9.67 N ..... .07 off

Spot ..... 11.40 N ..... 11.33 N ..... .07 off

Volume (In contract of 100 bales each) ..... 102,600 bales.

Note: January cotton, first notice day:—26/12/39 last notice day:—17/1/40.

NEW YORK RUBBER

December ..... 20.30 N ..... 20.45b/45a ..... .15 up

March ..... 19.40b/50a ..... 19.45/45 ..... .15 up

May ..... 19.08/08 ..... 19.10b/15a ..... 19.10b/15a ..... .02 up

July ..... 18.85/85 ..... 18.95/99 ..... 19.00/00 ..... .15 up

September ..... 18.70/70 ..... 18.78/78 ..... .08 up

Note: December rubber, last notice day:—27/12/39.

Total sales for the day:—1,000 tons.

CHICAGO WHEAT

December ..... 106/107 ..... 111/114 ..... 48 up

May ..... 105/105 ..... 105b/106 ..... 100/100 ..... 42 up

July ..... 103/103 ..... 103/104 ..... 107/107 ..... 4 up

Saturday's sales:—42,65,000 bushels.

CHICAGO CORN

December ..... 564/564 ..... 571/567 ..... 4 up

May ..... 581/581 ..... 583/581 ..... 1 up

July ..... 581/581 ..... 591/591 ..... 11 up

WINNIPEG WHEAT

December ..... 841b ..... 871/874 ..... 24 up

May ..... 89/894 ..... 894/894 ..... 24 up

July ..... 90/904 ..... 924/924 ..... 24 up

NEW YORK HIDES

March ..... 15.53/53 ..... 15.60/64 ..... 15.56/58 ..... .03 up

June ..... 15.83b/84a ..... 15.90/99 ..... 15.86/86 ..... .03 up

New York, Official ..... unquoted

NY-London Cross Rate 3.94

3.95

3.96

3.97

3.98

3.99

3.99

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FORTNIGHTLY	VANCOUVER and SEATTLE.

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## Uncertainty Of Japanese Promises

SHANGHAI, Dec. 19 (Int'l)—Foreign shipping circles here are not enthusiastic concerning the re-opening of the Yangtze, as only the stretch from Nanking to the sea will be open to foreign shipping.

The Japanese naval spokesman emphasized that the river is subject to closing when military necessity demands.

The closing of the Pearl River is cited as an example of the uncertainty of Japanese promises.

## NAZI PLANES SINK MOTOR VESSEL

LONDON, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—In connection with the coastal raids on Britain by the Nazi Air Force on Sunday, it is now reported that the motor-vessel *Serenity*, of 244 tons, was sunk during the course of these attacks.

The crew, who have been landed by lifeboat, said the ship was attacked by Nazi planes and one bomb made a direct hit on the *Serenity*, but fortunately no one was injured.

British fighters then arrived and drove the Nazis off, appearing to have destroyed one as they did so, according to the ship's crew.

## U.S. PLANES FOR FINLAND

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—It is understood that 44 of the order for 54 war planes originally placed with the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation for the U.S. Navy will be sent to Finland.

The Navy's order will be completed later.

## WEATHER REPORT

Hongkong Royal Observatory  
10 a.m., Dec. 19  
Barometer, (at sea level), 30.23, ins.  
Temperature, 62 F.  
Humidity, 50 per cent.  
Wind Direction, NNE.  
Wind Force (Beaufort), 2.  
Temperature, maximum yesterday, 71 F.  
Temperature, minimum last night, 55 F.  
Rainfall for 24 hrs., ending 10 a.m. today, nil.  
Total rainfall since January 1st, 66.70 ins.  
Against an average of, 84.87 ins.  
Sunset tonight, 5:43 p.m.  
Sunrise tomorrow, 6:38 a.m.  
4 p.m., Dec. 19.  
Barometer (at sea level), 30.10, ins.  
Temperature, 66 F.  
Humidity, 56 per cent.  
Wind Direction, SE.  
Wind Force (Beaufort), 2.  
Maximum temperature, 70 F.  
Minimum temperature, 55 F.  
Rainfall, 0.00.

## HONG KONG TIDE TABLE

From 20 to 24 Dec. 1939

Days of Week Date of Month	HIGH WATER		LOW WATER	
	Hong Kong Standard Time	Height	Hong Kong Standard Time	Height
Wed. 20	08 11	5 0	09 57	2 9
	17 16	5 6	23 46	4 1
Thur. 21	03 42	4 7	10 46	3 2
	17 34	6 0	—	—
Fri. 22	05 36	4 4	09 46	3 5
	18 08	6 4	11 31	3 3
Sat. 23	07 07	4 4	01 32	2 8
	18 44	2 0	12 13	3 4
Sun. 24	18 17	4 4	02 13	2 1
	18 33	7 5	1 56	3 4
Mon. 25	09 09	4 5	02 04	1 6
	20 03	5 0	13 27	3 4
Tues. 26	09 55	4 7	03 32	0 9
	20 46	8 3	14 19	3 4

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HAIPHONG.

CANTON.

TOULONE, SAIGON and HANOI.

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## BRITISH TRAWLERS SUNK

LONDON, Dec. 19 (BWS)—

—The Admiralty announced yesterday evening that "H.M. trawlers *Evelina* and *Sedgely* are overdue and must be presumed to have been sunk."

Twenty-five names of the crews are published as missing and believed to have been killed.

## NEW RAILWAY IN KWANGSI

HENGYANG, Dec. 19 (Int'l)—

Traffic on the new railway between Liuchow and Kweiulin in Kwangsi began on December 16, linking it with the line extending to this town and Changsha.

However, the construction of the line from Liuchow to Chenanwan near the French border has been suspended owing to military reasons.

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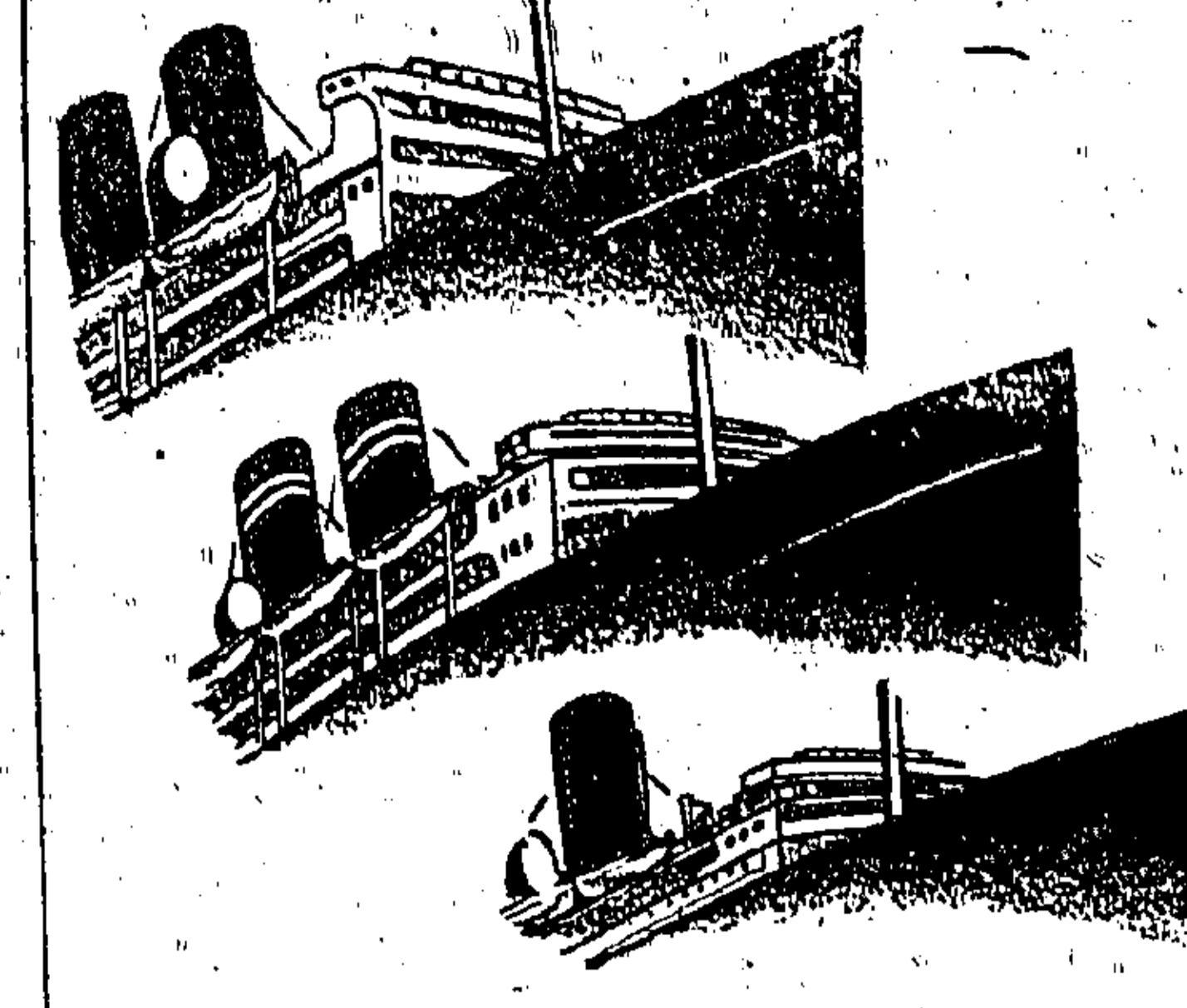
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Monthly Sailings to Rabaul, East Coast  
of Australia and Tasmania.

Also frequent sailings to Shanghai and  
Japan.

All vessels may call at any ports on or off the route  
and the route and all sailings

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1939.

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JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO LTD & THE  
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SAFE  
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WAY  
  
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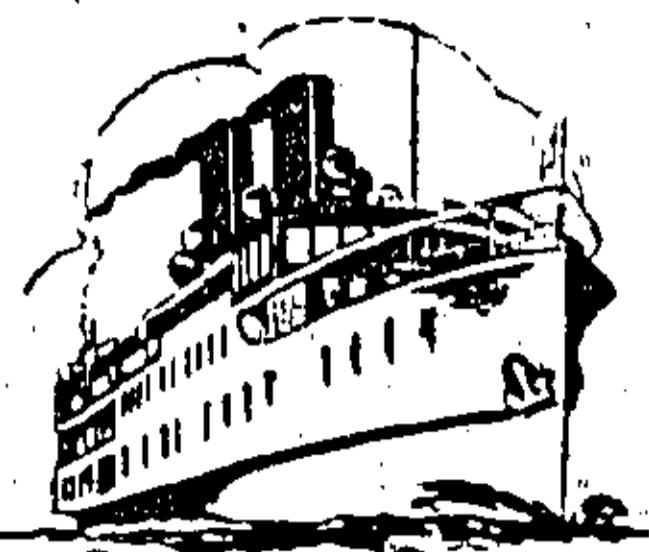
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## CONSIGNEES' NOTICES

## MAERSK LINE

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

THE  
having arrived, from New York and  
Ports of call, Consignees of Cargo or  
Merchandise notified that their Goods are  
being landed and placed at their risk  
into the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharves  
and Godown. Company's godowns at  
Kowloon, where delivery may be  
obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.  
Optional Cargo will not be landed  
here, unless Notice has been given 48  
hours prior to vessel's arrival, but carried  
on from port to port to the final port of  
call to which the option extends.

No Claims will be admitted after the  
Goods have left the Godowns, and all  
Goods remaining undelivered after the  
24th Dec., 1939, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged  
Goods are to be left in the Godowns,  
when they will be examined on 22nd  
Dec., 1939, at 10 a.m., by our  
Surveyor Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

To comply with the General Bonded  
Warehouse Regulations, consignees must  
have a Revenue Officer in attendance  
when damaged dutiable goods are  
examined.

All claims must reach us before  
the 23rd Jan., 1940, or they will not  
be recognized.

No Insurance will be effected.  
Bill of Lading will be countersigned by  
JESSEN & CO., Agents.

Hong Kong, 15th Dec., 1939. [888]

## NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

## THE BEN LINE STEAMERS, LTD.

## THE S.S. "

## ARRIVED HONG KONG

From LEITH, MIDDLESBROUGH,  
ANTWERP, LONDON  
AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby  
informed that all Goods are being  
landed at their risk into the hazardous  
and/or extra hazardous Godowns of  
the Hong Kong and Kowloon WHARF AND  
GODOWN COMPANY, LTD., whence and/or  
from the wharves Delivery may be  
obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the  
Goods have left the Godowns, and all  
Goods remaining undelivered after the  
24th Dec., 1939, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must  
be presented to the Undersigned on or  
before the 6th Jan., 1940, or they will not  
be recognized.

No Insurance will be effected.  
Bill of Lading will be countersigned by  
W. R. LOXLEY & CO. (CHINA) LTD.  
Agents.

Hong Kong, 18th Dec., 1939

## Foreign Journalists Fete

## Publicity Director

CHUNGKING, Dec. 19 (Central) — Dr. Wang Shih-chieh, director of the Central Publicity Board, was feted by foreign newspaper representatives in Chungking at a dinner party yesterday evening.

Among the hosts were representatives of Havas, Reuter, the D.N.B., United Press, New York Times, Tass, Transocean, and Associated Press, while besides Dr. Wang, the guest of honour, both Mr. Pak Kung-chan and Mr. Hollington K. Tong, deputy directors of the Central Publicity Board, and Mr. T. T. Hsiao, director of the Central News Agency, were also invited.

After a toast by the hosts, Dr. Wang, in a brief address, dwelt on the important nature of the task of the foreign newspapermen in China's wartime capital at the present time. He pointed out that since the fall of Canton and Hankow last year, direct contact between China and the friendly Powers in Europe and America had almost been cut and it was difficult for China's friends to obtain firsthand knowledge on her war of resistance and her efforts on national reconstruction.

## JAPAN'S PROPAGANDA

Coupled with this difficulty was Japan's intensified propaganda and the preoccupation of Europe and America in the European war. In this disadvantageous position, it was the fervent hope of the National Government that foreign correspondents in China would supply as much as possible true and unbiased news to their papers abroad.

Dr. Wang said that the Chinese Government did not desire

## JAPANESE PLANS

KWEILIN, Dec. 19 (Int'l)—Japanese designs on Lungchow, in Western Kwangsi, near Indo-China, are indicated by the occupation of Suiyu, south-west of Nanning, on the highway leading to that frontier town.

Enemy troops at Kaofeng, north of Nanning are entrenched themselves for fear of a Chinese counter-offensive from Wuming.

coloured or biased despatches to be sent out for foreign consumption, it being his firm conviction that one of the fundamental principles in publicity work should be the avoidance of rumours or provocation.

What was expected of the foreign press representatives was that a regular and full supply of truth be sent abroad to counteract false propaganda, and to ensure for the world firsthand knowledge of what was really going on in China's war for international peace and justice.

## CORRECT PROCEDURE

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 19 (Reuter)—Referring to the German note to Uruguay claiming that the neutrality law was not properly applied in the case of the Graf Spee, the Uruguayan Foreign Minister said he was convinced the Ministry had scrupulously observed the principles of neutrality and international law. He was prepared to publish a report showing that the procedure followed was "correct even if applied in the most liberal sense."

## THE FUTURE

The Manchester Guardian also looks forward into the future. The last war, it points out, was followed by a great epidemic. What strength will the populations of Poland and Czechoslovakia have to resist disease? And what of the impoverished population of the Reich?

## NAZI PROMISE

The paper also points out that in March this year, Germany agreed not to do anything for some four or five years, during which time she could organise her military resources.

The Times praises Signor Mussolini's efforts to preserve peace. Herr Hitler replied

with a refusal eighteen days before the invasion of Poland.

So much for the often reiterated Nazi slogan about "the patience of the Führer."

## LATER AIR MINISTRY BULLETIN

—A later Air Ministry bulletin indicates that the twelve German aircraft destroyed in Heligoland represented over fifty per cent of the total German forces engaged.

## HITLER'S REFUSAL OF ITALIAN

Herr Hitler gave Italy less notice than is customary and expected between partners.

The paper stresses Count Ciano's reference to the fact that Italy and Germany agreed that they must avoid war for some years in their own interests.

That, says the Manchester Guardian, would be disturbing reading for the Germans, if the German people are ever allowed to read it.

## NAZI PROMISE

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TO UNITED KINGDOM PORTS. Two well placed Sailings during 2nd ALF of DECEMBER. For dates and ports of call apply to Agents.

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## POSSESSION OF FORGED \$500 BANKNOTE: FORMER RICE MERCHANT GAOLED

## Alleged Theft By Trick Of Tins Of Red Dye

CHONG PAK-CHUNG, 32-year-old Chinese, who was neatly attired in a double-breasted grey flannel suit and who described himself as a former rice merchant, was sentenced by the Chief Justice, Sir Atholl MacGregor, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday, to two-and-a-half years' hard labour when he was found guilty of possession of a forged \$500 banknote, uttering it and larceny by trick of 98 tins of red dye from Ma Chung-poon, firewood dealer of Koon Chung Street, Kowloon.

Mr. M. J. Abbott, Assistant Crown man named Li Ngai whom he said was his employer, but when Shu Ping went to the address given by

accused the man could not be found.

The police were informed and defendant was arrested.

In evidence, accused denied that he knew the banknote was a forgery or that he had attempted to trick Ma. He stated that he was acting for Li Ngai, who was to give him a commission of \$1 per tin for

seeing through the transaction, as Li's friend, Leung, could not arrange the business as the latter was not well-dressed and not gentleman enough to create confidence.

On the day in question, said accused, Li told him that the money had been handed to Leung. In the taxi, Leung gave him a \$500 note to keep. His suspicions were not aroused, as the note was old one.

## WAS IN KITCHEN

Accused stated that he was in the kitchen washing his hands, which had become stained after examining the dye, when he saw Leung departing with the tins in the taxi.

When the jury found defendant guilty on all three counts, His Lordship remarked that defendant could not be surprised to hear the verdict.

Chong said that he had been in Hongkong 21 years and had never committed an offence, and added that he had been fooled.

Chong was again asked for

money, and he produced \$500, which was examined on the spot and found to be a forgery. Chong then asked to communicate with a

## Uruguayan Government Blamed

## GRAF SPEE NOT GIVEN SUFFICIENT TIME

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 19 (Reuter)

—A protest has been sent to the Uruguayan Government by the Uruguayan Government, alleging that the Uruguayan Government failed to give the Graf Spee the necessary time to make her seaworthy, thus committing "gross breach of international law and usage."

## NOT SEAWORTHY

The Nazi note takes the same line as the letter sent by Captain Landsdorf to the German Minister in Montevideo before he took his ship out and scuttled her in obedience to Herr Hitler's orders.

In this letter, Captain Landsdorf said that although the fighting power of the ship was not diminished, she was not seaworthy as her kitchens and bakeries were damaged and he could not put to sea with a crew of 1,000 men when she was in that condition.

The Captain's note alleges that the Uruguayan Government by refusing to extend the Graf Spee's time limit, failed to live up to the Hague Convention.

## CAPTAIN'S ADMISSION

The Captain also admits having fired at British warship while in Uruguayan territorial waters.

The Uruguayan authorities are now investigating the way in which the Graf Spee was sunk. They questioned the Chief Engineer and three members of the crew, who were among the last to leave the ship. All members of the Graf Spee's crew on board the Tacoma will be interned.

## MUCH RESENTMENT

There is considerable resentment at the Graf Spee's choice of a final anchorage, right in the middle of the main fairway in only 25 feet of water, where she may become a danger to navigation.

## AN INCIDENT

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 19 (Reuter)

—It is reported from a good source that an incident occurred on board the Graf Spee when the captain announced his decision to scuttle.

The officers are reported to have replied in the presence of the men, that such action would be shameful and that they preferred to sail out and fight even if it meant certain death.

## INCOMPREHENSIBLE

A communiqué issued by the Foreign Ministry reveals that the German Minister requested fifteen days to repair the battleship. Thereupon the Foreign Ministry appointed a Committee of experts, which fixed the final time-limit.

The Foreign Ministry assets that the allegations that Uruguay infringed the legal principles of the right of asylum are quite "incomprehensible."

## CORRECT PROCEDURE

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 19 (Reuter)

—Referring to the German note to Uruguay claiming that the neutrality law was not properly applied in the case of the Graf Spee, the Uruguayan Foreign Minister said he was convinced the Ministry had scrupulously observed the principles of neutrality and international law. He was prepared to publish a report showing that the procedure followed was "correct even if applied in the most liberal sense."

## OUTWARD MAILED

## FOREIGN MAILED

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 20th DECEMBER, 1939, 9.30 A.M.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

Christmas and New Year Cards bearing not more than five written words and enclosed in open envelopes are accepted by the Post Office at the rate for printed matter, i.e. 5 cents per 2 ounces, for all countries.

Hongkong, China and Macao at 2 cents per 2 ounces.

Envelopes must not be closed.

## INWARD MAILED

From

Due

Air Mail by "Air France Direct Service"—Paris date 13th December.	20th Dec.
Shanghai	20th Dec.
Straits	20th Dec.
Java and Manilla	20th Dec.
Rabaul	20th Dec.
London and Straits	20th Dec.
Mr Mail by "Imperial Airways Direct Service" London date, 13th Dec.	21st Dec.
Haiphong	21st Dec.
U. S. A., Honolulu, and Japan (San Francisco) date 22nd November.	21st Dec.
Europe via Suez and Straits (London date, 13th November).	21st Dec.
Australia and Manilla	21st Dec.
Mr Mail by "Pan American Airways Direct Service" San Francisco date, 15th December.	22nd Dec.
Shanghai	22nd Dec.
Calcutta and Straits	22nd Dec.
Sandakan	22nd Dec.
Haiphong and Hohow.	22nd Dec.
Japan and Shanghai	22nd Dec.
Europe via Suez and Straits (London date, 18th November).	23rd Dec.
Air Mail by "Imperial Airways Direct Service"—London date, 16th Dec.	24th Dec.
Shanghai	24th Dec.
Shanghai and Amoy	24th Dec.
Calcutta and Straits	24th Dec.
Japan and Shanghai	24th Dec.
Manila	24th Dec.
Strait	24th Dec.
Calcutta and Straits	25th Dec.
Japan and Shanghai	25th Dec.
Manila	25th Dec.
Strait	25th Dec.
Japan and Shanghai	26th Dec.
U. S. A., Honolulu, Japan and Manilla (San Francisco date, 3rd December).	27th Dec.
Shanghai	27th Dec.
Sandakan	27th Dec.
Japan and Shanghai	27th Dec.